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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

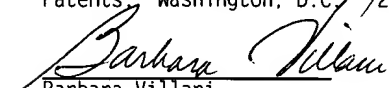
Date of Deposit: November 27, 2001

Applicant(s): E. NAKAZAWA et al

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Serial No. : Based on  
PCT/JP01/02496

Filed : Herewith

  
Barbara Villani

For : SETTLEMENT SYSTEM AND  
SERVER APPARATUS

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

Art Unit :  
Examiner :

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks

S I R :

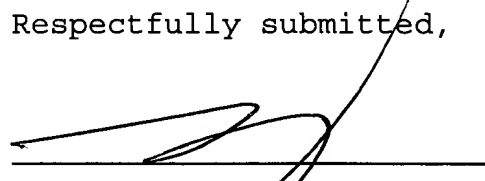
**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Page 1:** Please insert the following as the first sentence:

--This application is a U.S. National Phase Application under 35 USC 371 of International Application PCT/JP01/02496 (published in English) filed March 27, 2001.--

**A marked-up copy of page 1 is attached hereto.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
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